

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA**

WESTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CARMELO VALDEZ ROMERO,

Defendant.

HEARING MINUTES

Sealed: No

Case No.: 20-cr-04051-LTS-KEM-4

Presiding Judge: Leonard T. Strand

Deputy Clerk: Allison Linafelter

Official Court Record: Shelly Semmler Contract? No

Contact Information: SSemmlerReporting@gmail.com

Date:	02/25/2022	Start:	8:15AM	Adjourn:	1:33PM	Courtroom:	Donald E. O'Brien			
Recesses:	9:00-9:11AM (11 min) 9:58-1:23PM (205 min)				Time in Chambers:	n/a		Telephonic?	No	
Appearances:	Plaintiff(s):	AUSA Shawn Wehde								
	Defendant(s):	CJA Jared Weber (defendant present)								
	US Probation:	n/a								
	Interpreter:	Patricia Hillock			Language:	Spanish	Certified:	Yes	Telephone:	No
TYPE OF PROCEEDING:				IS THE HEARING		Contested?	Yes	Continued from a previous date?		No
TRIAL:	Jury:	X	Non-jury:		Day:	4				
	Motion(s):	Defense renewed Rule 29 motion (will file a written motion)				Ruling:	Court reserves ruling until after written briefing			
	Time:	Event:								
	8:15-9:00AM	Court opens with all parties present. Jury enters. Court advises jury of its 801(D)(2)(e) ruling and that the relevant testimony is in evidence. P closing argument. Jury exits. Recess.								
	9:11-9:58AM	Court opens with all parties present. Jury enters. D closing argument. P rebuttal argument. Court excuses alternate juror. Court reads final jury instructions 14-15. Court advises jury of the JERS system, physical evidence, and explains the jury question procedure. Jury sent to deliberate. Recess.								
	1:23-1:33PM	Court opens with all parties present. Jury enters. Court reads verdict. Court confirms with individual jurors their verdict. Court excuses and discharges jury. Jury exits. Defense renews Rule 29 motion. Defendant remanded to marshal custody. Court advises defendant of his appeal right. PSIR ordered. Court adjourns.								
	Verdict:	Not guilty on count 1; Guilty on count 4 (50 grams or more of pure methamphetamine)								
	Witness/Exhibit List is	Attached								
	Miscellaneous:	Judge orders lunch be provided to the jury during deliberations								